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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY

Poland

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT

Vessels of the Polish Navy

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REFERENCES

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25X1X 1. [] did not have any knowledge on Polish Marines, coastal defenses or Reserves. As to the strength of the Polish Navy, he had seen the following ships between 1946 and 1952 on the Baltic Sea and in the ports of Gdynia and Szczecin:

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a. BLYSKAWICA (destroyer). It was about 320 feet long, had a crew of about 180 to 200 men, with a gross tonnage of about 2,100. Its speed was 40 knots. [] had no knowledge of its firepower. He did recall seeing a radar antenna although he did not know what type. He saw only one of these ships.

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b. Mine layers and sweepers (trawlers). [] saw three of these steel-hulled ships which were manufactured in Modlin on the Vistula River. He did not know their gross tonnage, but estimated that they were 100 feet long and had a speed of about 15 knots. He did not know how large a crew they required nor their firepower.

c. Mine layers and sweepers (trawlers). [] could give no specifications on these other than that he saw five of them and that they were built in the US and were originally received through UNRRA. The

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Polish Navy confiscated four of them and the fifth was taken over by the Central Maritime Office (Główny Urząd Morski)..

- d. Mine layers and sweepers (trawlers) of the KACZOREK class. [] 25X1X saw about 12 or 15 of these Soviet-built, steel-hulled ships. These ships were about 80 feet long and had a speed of about 15 knots. He had no information on gross tonnage or crew.
- e. Three submarines, only one of which was capable of submerging. [] 25X1X had no information on specifications.
- f. Torpedo boats (kutry torpedowe).. [] saw about 15 of these boats, 25X1X which had been built in the US and sent to the USSR. Most of them had three 12-cylinder Packard engines of 1,200 hp. each, although some had only two such engines. They had wooden hulls but he had no information on other specifications.
- g. Fishing cutters (rybacke kutry). [] saw three or four of these 25X1X Polish-built ships. They were armed with two heavy machine guns and were used to patrol the coastal waters and high seas. They each carried a crew of six to eight men.
- h. Tugs (holownik). [] saw three or four of these ships but had no 25X1X knowledge of their specifications.
- i. Tankers (tankowiec). [] saw two or three of these ships. They 25X1X were about 25 years old and their gross tonnage was about 500 each. He had no further information.
- j. Mother Ship (statek matek). It was named ZMPOWIEC for the Union of Polish Youth (Związek Młodzieży Polskiej -- ZMP). Built in Germany with a gross tonnage of about 2,000, it was used as a naval training ship.

All of the above-named ships had Soviet officers in charge. They sometimes wore Polish uniforms and sometimes Soviet uniforms. Soviet uniforms were mostly worn when on the high seas.

- 25X1X 2. According to [] the services which participated in the coastal defenses included the Military Border Guards (Wojska Ochrony Pogranicza -- WOP), the Polish Navy, the Polish Marines (Piechota Morska), and the artillery units of the sappers. He did not know how the responsibility was divided or whether there was an over-all command.
3. The entire Polish coast was restricted with the exception of bathing beaches which were open to the public from sunrise to sunset. Mines were laid along the coast to a depth of two meters, but [] did not 25X1X know whether this included the bathing areas. He knew that there were other restricted areas in the Baltic which were mined, but he had no further information concerning them.

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